

indiscriminate procreation of the mentally imperfect, the morally depraved, and the physically weak, then the end of the nation is in sight, our country will soon be at the mercy of less sentimental peoples, and our civilisation reduced, like that of ancient Greece and pompous Rome, to a mere name in history.

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REVIEWS

MODERN MEDICAL TREATMENT. By E. Bellingham-Smith, M.D., F.R.C.P., and Anthony Feiling, M.D., F.R.C.P. London: Cassell & Co., Ltd., 1931. Vol. I, pp. 701; vol. II, pp. 705. 30s. net the two volumes.

THE appearance of two fair-sized volumes of a work on Modern Medical Treatment reminds us of the rapid development of this subject in recent years. No longer do we confine treatment to good food and nursing with the inward exhibition of a drug. Heliotherapy, actinotherapy, hydrology, and electrotherapy all have a place, while endocrines, vitamins, antigens, and anti-toxins have each found its practical application. This book discusses all these forms of treatment from an eminently rational point of view. Older methods which have long proved their value are discussed, whilst only those newer methods have been recommended that have been found useful in the personal experience of the authors. If a method has been tried and found wanting, they do not hesitate to say so, and it is just this personal touch throughout the book that makes it of such great value to the busy practitioner. The book is interestingly written, and characterised throughout by a sanity and breadth of vision seldom found in a work of this kind.

THE COMMONER NERVOUS DISEASES. By Frederick J. Nattrass, M.D., F.R.C.P. London: Milford, Oxford University Press, 1931. pp. 218; 15 figs.; 2 plates. 12s. 6d. net.

THE busy practitioner owes a debt of gratitude to the Oxford University Press for the publication of this very readable book. Written for the general practitioner rather than the specialist, it contains only the essentials of what is acknowledged to be one of the most difficult branches of medicine. The chapter which deals with the examination of the patient is a model of clearness and orderly thinking, while the chapters devoted to the different clinical entities are, with a few minor defects, just as well written. We are glad to see the appearance of a loss of sensation on the centre of the face given as an early sign of tabes, and the emphasis given to the profound differences between the mental sequelæ in children and in adults in cases of epidemic encephalitis. In discussing migraine, the author might perhaps have mentioned that approximately sixty per cent. of epileptics have a migranious heredity. He might also have emphasised the fact that epilepsy commencing after the age of 30 is almost invariably organic, and not idiopathic. These, however, are minor criticisms, and Dr. Nattrass is to be congratulated on the outcome of his labours.

DISEASES OF THE STOMACH. By Hugh Morton, M.D. London: Edward Arnold & Co., 1931. pp. 181. 10s. 6d. net.

MANY large books have been written on diseases of the stomach, but few general practitioners can find time to digest them. It is, therefore, a pleasure to find a small book on this subject discussing the most recent views on diagnosis and treatment in concise, clear, and simple language. This book is well proportioned, and bears throughout the mark of a wide personal experience. This is particularly seen in the sections devoted to treatment. There are a few well-chosen X-ray illustrations, and it concludes with a brief account of stomach function tests. The general practitioner, for whom the book is primarily intended, should find it of great value.